

Bolivia – La Paz

Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS)

FACT SHEET



The Bolivia – La Paz GYTS includes data on prevalence of cigarette and other tobacco use as well as information on five determinants of tobacco use: access/availability and price, environmental tobacco smoke exposure (ETS), cessation, media and advertising, and school curriculum. These determinants are components Bolivia could include in a comprehensive tobacco control program.

The Bolivia – La Paz GYTS was a school-based survey of students in Primero secundaria, Segundo secundaria, and Octavo de primaria conducted in 2003.

A two-stage cluster sample design was used to produce representative data for all of La Paz. At the first stage, schools were selected with probability proportional to enrollment size. At the second stage, classes were randomly selected and all students in selected classes were eligible to participate. The school response rate was 95%, the student response rate was 91.9%, and the overall response rate was 87.3%. A total of 4,214 students participated in the Bolivia – La Paz GYTS.

Prevalence

43.8% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (Male = 49.1%, Female = 37.7%)
 23.8% currently use any tobacco product (Male = 28.2%, Female = 18.7%)
 19.0% currently smoke cigarettes (Male = 23.4%, Female = 14.1%)
 9.5% currently use other tobacco products (Male = 11.3%, Female = 7.5%)
 24.9% of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year

Knowledge and Attitudes

19.1% think boys and 18.8% think girls who smoke have more friends
 15.6% think boys and 13.0% think girls who smoke look more attractive

Access and Availability - Current Smokers

12.4% usually smoke at home
 58.3% buy cigarettes in a store
 81.0% who bought cigarettes in a store were NOT refused purchase because of their age

Environmental Tobacco Smoke

35.6% live in homes where others smoke in their presence
 53.8% are around others who smoke in places outside their home
 80.9% think smoking should be banned from public places
 58.8% think smoke from others is harmful to them
 41.4% have one or more parents who smoke
 12.3% have most or all friends who smoke

Cessation - Current Smokers

61.4% want to stop smoking
 67.2% tried to stop smoking during the past year
 71.3% have ever received help to stop smoking

Media and Advertising

76.6% saw anti-smoking media messages, in the past 30 days
 85.3% saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards, in the past 30 days
 77.4% saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines, in the past 30 days
 16.6% have an object with a cigarette brand logo
 13.7% were offered free cigarettes by a tobacco company representative

School

49.3% had been taught in class, during the past year, about the dangers of smoking
 23.1% had discussed in class, during the past year, reasons why people their age smoke
 37.9% had been taught in class, during the past year, the effects of tobacco use

Highlights

- Two out of 10 students currently use any form of tobacco; 1 in 5 students currently smoke cigarettes; 1 in 10 currently use some other form of tobacco.
- ETS exposure is high – two thirds of the students live in homes where others smoke and half of the students are exposed to smoke around others outside of the home; 4 in 10 students have a parent who smokes and 1 in 10 students have friends who smoke.
- Eight in 10 students think smoke from others is harmful to them.
- Two thirds of the current smokers want to stop smoking.
- 13% of the students were offered a free cigarette by a tobacco company representative.
- Over 7 in 10 students saw anti-smoking media messages in the past 30 days; over 8 in 10 students saw pro-cigarette ads in the past 30 days.